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BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

FOR **1972**

W. MOORE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

R. FRANKHAM, M.A.P.H.I.,
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

BOROUGH OF REIGATE

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
W. Moore, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

together with the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
R. Frankham, M.A.P.H.I.

—
1972
—

Public Health Department,
Caberfeigh,
24, Hatchlands Road,
Redhill, Surrey.

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STEPHEN PERHAM

Technical Assistants

JOHN AGENT
LESLIE PARTEN

District Pests Officers

EDWARD E. ARNOULD
PETER REEVES

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Post Vacant

Clerks

SUSAN A. GEALE
JOAN MUNDY
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B O R O U G H O F R E I G A T E

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my report on the public health, sanitary circumstances and vital statistics of the Borough of Reigate in the year 1972.

The report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health and Social Security, as indicated in Circular 1/73, and contains the information requested in the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959.

As can be seen from the figures, the Reigate statistics follow the national trend closely. There was a decrease in the birth rate, while the death rate showed a slight increase.

There were no serious epidemiological problems during 1972.

Brief reference is made to the measures taken by the Public Health Department to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies; sanitary inspection; duties under the Factories Acts; scavenging and cleansing; disinfection and disinfestation; supervision of caravan sites, and other routine matters having a direct bearing on environmental hygiene and the prevention of disease and ill health.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the support and consideration they have kindly extended to me throughout the year. I also wish to express my thanks to Mr. Frankham, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal and efficient support, and my colleagues in other Departments of the Corporation for their ready assistance and help.

I regret that this will be the final report made as Medical Officer of Health to the Reigate Borough Council.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM MOORE

Medical Officer of Health.

16th August, 1973.

"Caberfeigh",
24, Hatchlands Road,
Redhill.

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (land and inland water)	10,255 acres
Population - Census 1971	56,088
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-year 1972	56,260
Number of inhabited dwellings at 1st April 1972 according to Rate Books	18,718
Rateable Value (1st April 1972)	£3,383,993
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£32,500

Population

The resident population of the Borough at mid-year 1972 was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 56,260, which shows a decrease of 60 on the corresponding estimated figure for 1971.

The overall density of population is 5.49 persons per acre and 3.01 per inhabited dwelling; the corresponding findings at the census enumeration in 1971 were 5.47 and 3.03 respectively.

Births

The 771 live births (395 of males and 376 of females) assigned to the Borough in 1972 represent a recorded birth rate of 13.7 per 1,000 of the estimated population. When adjusted by the prescribed formula for the purpose of comparison the recorded rate is advanced to 14.0, which compares with the national rate of 14.8 for the same period.

The illegitimacy rate of 80 per 1,000 live births shows an increase over the number for 1971.

Stillbirths

The ten stillbirths in the year represent a stillbirth rate of 13.0 per 1,000 total (i.e. live and still)births. This compares with the corresponding rate of 12.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths

The 669 deaths (296 of males and 373 of females) assigned to the Borough in 1972 represent a crude rate of 11.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. When adjusted for comparison this is reduced to 10.1, which compares with a corresponding rate of 12.1 for the country as a whole.

The number of deaths of each sex in various age groups were as follows:-

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	4	1	5
4 weeks and under 1 year	-	2	2
1 - 4 years	-	1	1
5 - 14 "	2	1	3
15 - 24 "	7	1	8
25 - 34 "	2	3	5
35 - 44 "	7	5	12
45 - 54 "	17	11	28
55 - 64 "	57	34	91
65 - 74 "	94	72	166
75 and over	106	242	348
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	296	373	669
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Seven infants died in their first year, of whom four failed to survive for one week. All but one death of infants took place in hospital. The infant mortality rate for the year was 9.0 per 1,000 live births, which compares with an average rate of 16.0 for the preceding five years and 17.0 for England and Wales.

Seven persons were fatally injured in road accidents, a decrease on the previous year, and there were seven deaths from other accidental causes; this figure is the same as for last year.

Deaths from other specified causes and their distribution by age and sex do not disclose any unusual features.

The National Classification of Deaths is set out in Table III.

Extracts from the vital statistics for the year are set out in Table I and comparative statistics for the years 1947 to 1972 are shown in Table II.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47 as amended
by the National Assistance (Amendment Act), 1951.

This section confers the necessary powers to secure the compulsory removal to hospital or other suitable premises of persons suffering from grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

As seems to be the pattern in recent years, the department was involved in the problem of removal of an elderly person to a place where proper attention would be available. The case in point was an elderly widow living alone without food or warmth and where her life could have been at risk in consequence.

The staff of the Public Health Department were also required to investigate certain other cases of elderly people living alone in a state of neglect, and with the assistance of the domiciliary and supporting services available, the persons concerned were enabled to remain in their own homes, with an acceptable standard of care and amenity.

TABLE I

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Live Births</u>			
Legitimate	367	344	711
Illegitimate	28	32	60
<u>Birth Rate - 1972</u>			13.7
" " - 1971			14.5
" " - for the five years 1967/1971			13.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			8.0
<u>Stillbirths</u>			
Legitimate	2	8	10
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total births - 1972			13.0
" " " " " - 1971			10.0
<u>Total Live and Stillbirths</u>	397	384	781
<u>Infant Mortality</u>			
Deaths of infants under the age of one year:			
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Infant Death Rate</u>			
All infants per 1,000 live births			9.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			10.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			-
Deaths of infants under the age of 4 weeks:			
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births</u>			6.0
<u>Maternal Mortality</u>			
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortions		-	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			-
<u>Deaths - 1972</u>	296	373	669
" - 1971	288	366	654
<u>Death Rate - 1972</u>			11.9
" " - 1971			11.6
" " - for the five years 1967/1971			12.0
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions			62.2
<u>Deaths from:</u>			
Cancer (all ages)			121
Measles (all ages)			-
Whooping Cough (all ages)			-
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)			-

TABLE II

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1947 - 1972

Year	Estimated Population	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
						Reigate	England
1947	40,480	744	19.6	534	13.2	20	41
1948	41,770	611	15.6	453	10.8	28	34
1949	42,150	592	14.8	518	12.3	37	32
1950	42,030	554	13.7	564	13.4	22	30
1951	42,220	530	13.2	551	13.0	20	29
1952	42,460	599	14.4	532	12.5	21	27
1953	44,890	654	15.2	637	14.2	30	26
1954	47,610	666	14.4	572	12.0	13	25
1955	48,180	637	13.6	585	12.1	17	25
1956	48,730	663	14.3	592	12.1	7	24
1957	49,330	681	13.8	564	11.6	13	23
1958	49,760	750	15.1	655	13.2	20	22
1959	50,580	706	13.9	586	11.5	14	22
1960	51,230	793	15.4	660	12.8	18	21
1961	54,260	790	14.5	642	11.8	12	21
1962	54,680	841	15.3	705	12.8	17	21
1963	54,890	823	14.9	748	13.6	18	21
1964	55,150	863	15.6	643	11.6	28	20
1965	55,490	810	14.5	617	11.1	16	19
1966	55,930	793	14.2	662	11.8	20	19
1967	56,340	794	14.1	655	11.6	19	18
1968	55,270	760	13.7	733	13.3	21	18
1969	57,830	751	13.0	650	11.2	13	18
1970	57,820	769	13.3	710	12.3	16	18
1971	56,320	817	14.5	654	11.6	11	18
1972	56,260	771	13.7	669	11.9	9	17

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF REIGATE DURING

1972

		M	F	Total	
1.	B4	Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
2.	B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	1	1
3.	B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	-	1
4.	B19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, Etc.	-	1	1
5.	B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1
6.	B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	5	11
7.	B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	7	11	18
8.	B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	29	3	32
9.	B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	13	13
10.	B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	9	9
11.	B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	5	-	5
12.	B19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-	1
13.	B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	16	14	30
14.	B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-	1
15.	B21	Diabetes Mellitus	2	7	9
16.	B46(1)	Other Endocrine Etc. Diseases	1	3	4
17.	B23	Anaemias	2	1	3
18.	B46(3)	Mental Disorders	-	2	2
19.	B46(4)	Multiple Sclerosis	-	1	1
20.	B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	5	2	7
21.	B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	10	10
22.	B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	6	8
23.	B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	83	81	164
24.	B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	11	31	42
25.	B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	35	74	109
26.	B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	21	20	41
27.	B31	Influenza	-	1	1
28.	B32	Pneumonia	24	38	62
29.	B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	17	5	22
30.	B33(2)	Asthma	-	2	2
31.	B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2	3
32.	B34	Peptic Ulcer	2	5	7
33.	B35	Appendicitis	1	-	1
34.	B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	1
35.	B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	2	1	3
36.	B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	1	3
37.	B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
38.	B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	3	8	11
39.	B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-skeletal System	1	2	3
40.	B42	Congenital Anomalies	4	1	5
41.	B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
42.	BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	3	7
43.	BE48	All Other Accidents	4	3	7
44.	BE49	Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	1	2	3
45.	BE50	All Other External Causes	-	1	1
		296	373	669	

SECTION II

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Every dwelling house in the Borough has a continuous and direct supply of water from the public mains, with the exception of a bungalow in Gatton Park, which has a piped and filtered supply from a nearby spring. The water from this source is of doubtful bacterial quality and periodic visits are made to check on the current position.

With the impending advent of the M.25 motorway at the top of Reigate Hill earlier in the year Crossways Caravan Park was phased out; as a result there was a reduction of 32 caravans on standpipe water supply. At the end of the year there were forty-one caravans on approved sites on standpipes, which were all within reasonable distance of the caravans.

There was no important extension of the public water supplies during the year, except that necessitated by new building development. The mains water supply, which is distributed in the whole area by the East Surrey Water Company, was adequate in quantity throughout the year and was augmented, when necessary, by distribution of water from the reserve boreholes at The Clears and Buckland. The water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers. Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted at least twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the Company. In addition samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about once a week under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company, thus avoiding duplication of sampling. Samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the analyst's reports are circulated for the information of the other districts concerned. These reports invariably indicated that the chemical and bacterial purity of the water reached a very high standard. The following report is typical of those received during the year:-

"This water is attractive in appearance and of excellent organic purity. The few organisms present are of no special significance. As judged by this examination the water is pure and wholesome and fit for drinking."

With regard to fluoridation, no definite action has been taken on this preventive measure. The average content of the natural water supply in this area is 0.15 p.p. million.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough. Both are covered baths owned and controlled by the Corporation, and are equipped with the necessary plant for continuous filtration and chlorination. The baths are filled from the public mains and are emptied and re-filled if the chemical quality of the water tends to fall below the required standards; such action was not necessary in 1972. Samples of water from both baths were submitted by the Department for analysis at the height of the bathing season, and were reported to be of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.

Samples of water from the eight open air swimming baths at local schools are also submitted for analysis. Three pools were reported as having an abnormally high level of free chlorine, and at one other pool, which had been out of use for some time, a detailed survey revealed the need for a complete overhaul and the provision of certain technical equipment before reuse. Generally advice was given and action taken to ensure that a water satisfactory for bathing was maintained. All baths are now equipped with automatic filtration and chlorination plants, and the Inspectors have the necessary apparatus for checking the efficiency of the plant in operation.

When sought, advice was given with regard to the maintenance of acceptable standards at swimming pools at private houses.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Ninety-three dwellings in the Borough are served by forty septic tank filter bed systems of sewage disposal. Two installations were completely overhauled during the year. One plant serving a property, comprising two houses and several flats, was the subject of major overhaul and repair. The other served a single household and had also malfunctioned due to lack of maintenance. Works on the sewerage of Lonesome Lane situated in the south west part of the Borough continued throughout 1972 and was all but completed at the end of the year, with the exception of electricity services to the pumping station. As a result seven cesspools and one sewage treatment plant were put out of use following connections to the new sewer.

Closet Accommodation - Pail or Chemical Closets

All dwellings in the Borough are on the water carriage system with the exception of four properties on the rural outskirts of the district, where the apparatus available is a pail or chemical closet, and disposal of sink waste liquids is to some form of cesspool or soakaway. This figure had been reduced by two following the vacation of a pair of cottages, the subject of Demolition Orders.

Rivers and Streams

The streams and surface water courses in the area are regularly inspected and all necessary action is taken to render them free from obstruction, pollution and rodent infestation.

Public Cleansing

I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following information relating to arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse:-

"During the early months of the year the refuse collection frequency rapidly deteriorated, with a high percentage of sickness, further aggravated by long service employees leaving the Department.

Attempts to retain the required level of manpower, around 40, proved extremely difficult and inevitably the frequency of collection suffered in direct relation to the staff available on duty at any one time. On many occasions during the year sickness and absenteeism reached 25% proportions

The practice of employing students during the summer months provided temporary improvement but round re-organisation during July met with considerable hostility from the men concerned. It followed, with the exodus of students during the autumn and reliance once more placed completely upon the shoulders of the permanent staff, that the service soon rapidly deteriorated and continued so for the remainder of the year.

Forecasts for any improvement in the future are difficult being entirely dependent upon the availability of manpower. Acceptance of an incentive bonus scheme which would no doubt attract reliable men may well be the only way of solving this long standing problem.

Requests for Special Collection of Bulky Household discards by the Civic Amenities Vehicle totalled 2,301 during the year, an increase of 101 on the previous year. Acceptance of these discards at the Works Entrance during the week-ends from the public continue to increase and has reached such proportions that the overtaxed Refuse Disposal staff may shortly have to be aided by a rota manning of refuse collection employees during week-ends to provide relief.

An estimated receipt of 3,000 tons shows a 100% increase on the previous year. Unfortunately a lack of evidence for future reception facilities for bulky refuse under the Civic Amenities Act 1967 with the arrival of Local Government Re-organisation, gives rise to some concern regarding this aspect of public service.

Receipts of old vehicles for disposal totalled 615 as compared with 454 the previous year. Plant throughput of refuse was 16,083 tons, being remarkably consistent with the previous year's figure of 15,938.

Pending commissioning of the new Lurgi Refuse/Sludge incinerator the old Refuse Disposal Works remained operational following remedial work being carried out during June on refractory linings and casting replacements. Failure of the magnetic pulley for the extraction of bright tins, however, proved too costly for replacement in the light of remaining short-term life of this plant.

Delivery was taken of a new salvage van, a Ford 115 Transit, and the vehicle was placed in service in November. The expected delivery of the second new 16/50 Ford Norba Screw vehicle did not materialise and the latest forecast delivery date indicated was March 1973. The introduction of a 5-year renewal programme, coupled with bad deliveries within this trade, would indicate the early order for replacements as soon as possible during 1973 to ensure a sufficient fleet of vehicles to maintain the refuse collection service.

Shops and Offices

In accordance with local practice all plans submitted to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor relating to shops are passed to the Chief Public Health Inspector to enable him to offer advice or suggestions, more particularly with regard to ventilation of shop fronts, lighting, sufficiency of sanitary accommodation, water supply and drainage.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 has made detailed provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in such premises since it came into operation in 1964. Inspections of registered premises continued throughout the year. The need for this continuous re-check is due to the constant change in occupation and business requirements. All newly notified premises received a general inspection, and all accidents reported were investigated. Particulars of these are summarised in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Camping and Caravan Sites

The Corporation Caravan Site at Three Arch Road, Redhill, has accommodation for a maximum of thirty-seven caravans, and is mainly restricted to applicants having residential or occupational connections with the Borough. One plot is kept vacant and available for urgent cases. The site has continued to serve its purpose satisfactorily in helping to meet local needs; there were 13 new lettings in 1972 and a total of fifty families were in occupation at some time during the year. Further improvements to the site were continued during 1972.

Crossways Caravan Site on Reigate Hill closed early in the year, preparatory to the construction of the M.25 motorway, and all the caravans were removed or relocated. Four families were transferred to the Corporation Caravan Park and a total of ten were rehoused in municipal accommodation. As a result of this closure, there is now only one privately owned caravan site in the Borough, with accommodation for 108 caravans of the mobile homes class, each with mains water, electricity, internal water closet, bath and main drainage. Facilities generally conform with the Model Standards for caravan sites.

Atmospheric Pollution - Clean Air Act 1956

No contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Period) Regulations were recorded in the Borough during the year, except for frequent emissions from the Council's refuse incinerator. Continuous efforts were made to keep the nuisance level to a minimum, but little more can be done with the existing worn-out plant until the new incinerator is commissioned.

The air pollution recording and measurement station in the Borough, which was established in 1967 at the Department at "Caberfeigh", continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year. As reported previously, the station was set up following consultation with Warren Spring Laboratory for the combined measurement of air pollution, including sulphur dioxide, since when there has been a continuity of records sent to the Laboratory as part of the National Survey, together with daily recordings of weather conditions, temperature, wind velocity, etc. In addition to the records sent to Warren Spring, quarterly reports are also sent by prior arrangement to the Consultant Chest Physician at the Redhill General Hospital. An extract of the recorded readings from the winter of 1971 and the summer period of 1972 appears on page 13.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Only one minor case of infestation by bed bugs was reported during the year. Infestations of this nature are now uncommon and rarely serious.

Registered Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.

Redhill - Station No. 1

Concentrations of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide -
Micrograms per Cubic Metre

Weekly Averages

Winter Period			Summer Period		
1971	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide	1972	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide
Oct. 4	27	64	Apr. 3	7	46
11	28	51	10	8	46
18	16	64	17	26	80
25	20	55	24	13	74
Nov. 1	52	82	May 1	19	75
8	24	66	8	16	74
15	44	125	15	18	59
22	23	75	22	15	53
29	38	105	29	6	37
Dec. 6	101	186	June 5	8	38
13	38	102	12	12	40
20	16	55	19	15	68
27	19	68	26	7	36
<u>1972</u>			July 3	8	34
Jan. 3	29	104	10	8	37
10	34	105	17	13	49
17	33	74	24	20	62
24	68	82	31	15	51
31	53	95	Aug. 7	10	30
Feb. 7	30	66	14	16	42
14	35	49	21	19	61
21	39	79	28	18	67
28	70	140	Sep. 4	16	49
Mar. 6	22	69	11	19	71
13	32	97	18	11	52
20	78	121	25	28	62
27	36	143			

Factories Act 1961

In accordance with the requirements of Section 153(i)(a) of the Factories Act 1961, I submit the following particulars of action taken during 1972 in relation to factory premises:-

(1) Inspections

P r e m i s e s	Number on Register	N u m b e r o f		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupie Prosecu
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	34	18	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	187	99	-	-
(iii) Others	24	26	-	-
T O T A L S	245	143	-	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found

P a r t i c u l a r s	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number o cases in which pro cutions w instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspr.	Referred by H.M.Inspr.	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S	4	4	-	1	-

(3) Outwork Sections 133 and 134

In compliance with the requirements of Section 133(i)(c) notice was given by one local employer in respect of ninety three outworkers employed by them in painting of small plastic articles.

Six lists were received from other Authorities in relation to fourteen outworkers, eight engaged in the making of lampshades, six in making or altering of wearing apparel. Inspections were made, but no further action was required.

SECTION III

HOUSING

Statistical particulars relating to the demolition, closure and repair of unfit houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Department of the Environment.

The particulars supplied under these headings in respect of the year 1972 are briefly summarised as follows:-

(a)	(i)	Houses demolished in Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957, Section 42)	Nil
	(ii)	Families displaced from Clearance Areas	Nil
(b)		Individual unfit houses dealt with (Housing Act, 1957 Sections 16 and 17)	
	(i)	Demolished	9
	(ii)	Closed	1
	(iii)	Families displaced	5
			(9 persons)
(c)		Unfit houses made fit	
	(i)	Informally -- by owner	60
	(ii)	After formal notice	1

The following information is of interest:-

(d)		Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	745
(e)		Number of dwelling-houses - included in (d) above - inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	12
(f)		Number of dwelling-houses represented as unfit and suitable for statutory action	
	(i)	Under Section 42, Housing Act 1957	7
	(ii)	Under Sections 16 and 17, Housing Act 1957	1
	(iii)	Under Section 18, Housing Act 1957	-
	(iv)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-
(g)	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1971	-
	(ii)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1972	-
	(iii)	Number of cases relieved during 1972	-
	(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1972	-

Continuing with the third five years Slum Clearance Programme, a further terrace of seven houses were represented during 1972, one dwelling house was the subject of a Closing Order and nine others were demolished as a result of earlier action under the Housing Acts.

At the end of the year, a total of 472 unfit dwellings had been demolished or closed and 439 families, comprising 1,132 persons, had been rehoused in accordance with the Council's programmes for the clearance of unfit houses.

The Council's Housing Manager has kindly supplied the following particulars with regard to rehousing:-

1.	<u>Number of new dwellings completed during the year</u>	
	Erected by Borough Council	50
	Erected by G.L.C.	-
	Erected by private enterprise	120
		<hr/>
		170
		<hr/>
2.	<u>Families rehoused from waiting list</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	15
	In permanent Council flats	60
	In old people's bungalows	5
	In old people's flatlets	35
		<hr/>
		115
		<hr/>
3.	<u>Families rehoused from clearance areas</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	3
	In permanent Council flats	13
		<hr/>
		16
		<hr/>
4.	<u>Families transferred from one type of dwelling to another</u>	92
		<hr/>
5.	<u>Mutual exchanges within the Borough</u>	38
		<hr/>
6.	<u>Tenants of other Local Authorities who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council</u>	13
		<hr/>
7.	<u>Number of applicants on the Council's housing waiting list at 31st December 1972</u>	
	Main waiting list	879
	Elderly people	246
		<hr/>
		1,125
		<hr/>

SECTION IV

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

In compliance with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) (Special Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1954, all milk sold by retail in the Borough must be heat treated, i.e. pasteurised or sterilised, with the exception of tuberculin-tested milk.

Milk supplies are sampled frequently for the purposes mentioned in previous reports. The laboratory findings on samples examined in 1972 are summarised in Table IV, and show that the milk on sale locally reached the normal high standard of bacterial purity.

Seventy-six samples of pasteurised milk and one of sterilised milk were submitted for the prescribed tests for keeping quality. All samples passed the appropriate tests.

All of the samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk satisfied prescribed tests to indicate that the heat treatment had been correctly applied; a sample of Ultra High Temperature (U.H.T.) milk was also submitted, again with satisfactory results.

TABLE IV

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Tests required by Regulations governing Special Designations

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue			Phosphatase		Turbidity
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Test void	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Untreated: -	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised: 76	76	-	-	76	-	-
Sterilised: 1	-	-	-	-	-	1

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 and 1965

There are four designations of milk under these Regulations - "Untreated", "Pasteurised", "Sterilised" and "Ultra Heat Treated". All milk sold for human consumption comes under one of these grades. Licences are issued for quinquennial periods, the current ones ending on 31st December, 1975, and they are also valid elsewhere than in the area of the licensing authority. Dealers' licences were in force during 1972 for forty-two dealers covering forty-seven premises in the Borough, three of these being new licences issued during the year.

Adulteration, etc.

No special action was necessary under Sections 47 and 48 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, nor under the Condensed Milk Regulations, 1959, and the Dried Milk Regulations 1965.

All articles submitted to the Public Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives, in accordance with the Preservatives in Food Regulations 1962. No contraventions of the Regulations were reported.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

These regulations came into force in 1964, and prescribed for the pasteurisation of all liquid egg to be used in food for human consumption, other than egg "broken out" in the food manufacturer's premises and used within twenty-four hours. The method of pasteurisation and the test to be applied were laid down in the Regulations. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough, and no problem arose necessitating sampling during 1972.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food

Samples for chemical analysis are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. J.A. Palgrave, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., M.Chem. A., and samples of milk and ice-cream for biological and bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom.

There are two premises in the Borough at which ice-cream is manufactured for sale. In each case soft ice cream is made from a sterile cold mix in a freezing machine from which it is directly dispensed through a nozzle. Both premises are catering establishments and exempt from registration, each proprietor having accepted a code of practice for the proper control, cleansing and sterilisation of the freezing machines and equipment.

A total of 102 confectioners, grocers, fruiterers, etc. are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream, obtained in all cases pre-packed from one of the large manufacturers. Hotels, catering establishments and cinemas are exempt from registration.

Sixteen samples of ice-cream were taken - ten from caterers and six from local shops. All were examined for bacterial quality by submission to the methylene blue reduction test. Thirteen of these were placed in provisional Grade I, one in Grade II and the remaining two in Grade III, indicating that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness had been observed in manufacture, storage and handling.

Three other food samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination as follows:-

Frozen Runner Beans: 1, Frozen Pork Sausages: 1, Rabbit Stew: 1.

All were reported as being satisfactory, containing no pathogenic organisms.

SECTION V

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious diseases is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. The disposal to various hospitals of the seven infectious cases requiring institutional care in 1972 was as follows:-

Redhill General Hospital	-	3 cases (meningitis)
		2 cases (food poisoning)
Crawley Hospital	-	1 case (food poisoning)
		1 case (infective hepatitis)

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

On receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease, an inspection is made of the premises at which the case occurred. The standards of hygiene in the home, the number of occupants and the extent of the accommodation are noted, and particulars are obtained of recent illness in the house, travel, and contact with other persons, school attended or nature of employment, together with other relevant information which is likely to be helpful in investigating the source and preventing spread of the infection. Immediate contacts are kept under observation and food handlers controlled as appropriate.

Needless to say, the depth of the enquiry varies with the character of the infection. The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out generally in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Memorandum issued jointly in 1956 by the then Ministries of Education and of Health.

Table V shows the numbers of cases of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

Smallpox

No confirmed case of smallpox was reported in the Borough in 1972.

Scarlet Fever

Nineteen cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year. All the cases were clinically mild, and were investigated in the usual routine manner.

Whooping Cough

Only one case was notified during the year.

Measles

The decline in this disease reported last year was continued, only eleven cases being notified.

TABLE V

Cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
notified during the year 1972.

Disease	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Totals	Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	6	5	4	2	2	-	2	-	19	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	1	2	-	1	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	11	-	-	5	3	2	2	-	22	-	-
Meningitis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	1
Food Poisoning	1	-	1	-	6	7	5	3	3	2	9	-	34	3	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	3	2	1	-	8	1	-
Totals:	5	3	2	1	26	15	11	13	7	14	14	-	98	7	1
Totals 1971:	8	7	8	14	56	31	10	28	10	23	23	8	219	5	-

Dysentery

Twenty two cases of dysentery were notified during the year. Of these eight were isolated incidents, and fourteen were members of staff and pupils of a local school. Extra hygiene precautions were instituted at the school with the assistance of the local Education Authority, and the spread of the outbreak was thus checked. This once again emphasises the importance of strict attention to personal hygiene.

Meningitis

Three cases of meningitis were notified during the year, one of an infant born prematurely in the local hospital, who died at ten days. The other two cases, both of young children, were admitted to hospital and made satisfactory recoveries.

Food Poisoning

There were thirty four cases of food poisoning during the year, of which three were admitted to hospital. All made satisfactory recoveries. Full investigations were carried out, including bacteriological examination of specimens.

Infective Jaundice

Eight cases were reported during the year, of which one was admitted to hospital. The Public Health Department carried out the usual routine investigations and advised on measures to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease among families.

Tuberculosis

Particulars of the new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

During 1972 notifications of five new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs were received, which represents a case rate of 0.08 per 1,000 of the population, a decrease on last year. Four new cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year under review.

In addition to the new cases, i.e. those notified for the first time, there were reports of two previously known cases of respiratory tuberculosis which had been notified elsewhere and who had taken up residence in the Borough.

The names of twenty two cases were removed from the register of tuberculous patients: three on the death of the patients; three on removal from the area, and sixteen on the patients' recovery from the disease.

At the end of the year there were 106 known cases of tuberculosis in the Borough, including 78 (54 males and 24 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 28 (10 males and 18 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. In many of these the disease is quiescent or arrested, but all are regularly visited and supervised by the staff of the local Chest Clinic. The total number of cases represents a decrease of eleven on the corresponding figure for 1971.

Mass Radiography

A total of 1,513 persons were examined through the Mass Radiography Service during the year.

TABLE VI

New Cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1972
classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease

Ages	Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals 1972:	1	4	3	1	-	1	-	-
Totals 1971:	5	2	2	2	-	1	-	-

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Smallpox

Vaccination against smallpox is undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the Borough. Particulars of notification of vaccination performed during the year are as follows:-

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Primary vaccination	1	87	18	106
Re-vaccination	-	3	85	88

The foregoing figures show a continued marked decrease in the numbers receiving primary vaccination which, in accordance with official advice, is not now carried out as a routine procedure. Re-vaccinations are for the most part attributable to children needing protection for foreign travel.

Records of vaccination and re-vaccination in respect of persons over the age of fifteen years, which were formerly included in the totals, are not now required. These mostly relate to persons who require valid International Certificates of Vaccination for foreign travel.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1965/68</u>	<u>Others under</u> <u>16 years</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	16	493	170	19	3	1	702

In addition reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 934 children, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The County Council's scheme is aimed at the vaccination against whooping cough of infants under the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later. The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1965/68</u>	<u>Others under</u> <u>16 years</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	16	489	167	16	2	-	690

Reinforcing injections of whooping cough vaccine were given to 31 children who had completed a course of primary immunisation.

Vaccination against Tetanus

Vaccination against tetanus is available to children whose parents expressly wish them to be so protected. Tetanus vaccine may be given separately but it is usually combined with the agents used for active immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough. The normal practice has been to advise primary vaccination against tetanus about the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later and again at school entry, with a final reinforcing dose at fifteen to nineteen years of age.

The number of persons vaccinated against tetanus in 1972 is as follows:-

0 - 4 years	698
5 - 16 years	20
	—
	718
	—
Reinforcing doses	1,255

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

There was no extension of the groups eligible for vaccination under the County Council's arrangements, which include persons up to the age of forty years and those who are considered to be exposed to special risks.

The numbers vaccinated against poliomyelitis by their own doctors or at County Council Clinics during the year are as follows:-

Primary immunisation	708
Reinforcing doses	1,245

Measles Vaccination

During 1972 a full-scale programme of vaccination against measles continued and 551 children received immunisation.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

The County Council's arrangements for routine B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis extend to thirteen year old pupils at County Council and independent schools, and also to some older pupils and students at County Colleges and other establishments for further education. Subject to the consent of their parents persons in these groups are skin tested to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculosis infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. vaccination. The object of the scheme is to protect young people before they leave school and so widen their range of contact with possible sources of infection.

Testing was conducted at fifteen schools in the Borough during the year, with the following results:-

Number Mantoux tested	643
Number of negative reactors	574
Percentage giving negative reaction	89.3%
Number vaccinated	574
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	100%

The foregoing figures show a decrease in the proportion of pupils giving a negative reaction to the Mantoux test. While the main purpose of the scheme is the ascertainment and vaccination of children who have not already had a primary infection, it is the usual practice to arrange, where possible, for x-ray examination of positive reactors to exclude the possibility of active infection. No unfavourable x-ray findings were reported during the year.

Protection against other diseases

Prophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as cholera, yellow fever, etc. is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic, and is usually undertaken at specified centres.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Department of Health and Social Security in relation to insured persons, and the Registrar's weekly return of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applicants for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme. The occurrence of cases at the Day Nursery and in residential children's homes is also reported.

The information obtained from these various sources indicated that the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious illness in the Borough in 1972 caused little interference with employment or school attendance.

Disinfection

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles that are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

Pediculosis

During the course of selective school hygiene inspections thirty two individual pupils were found to be affected with pediculosis, which in most instances was of a minor degree and confined to nits in the hair. All were promptly and satisfactorily treated.

BOROUGH OF REIGATE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1972

Public Health Department,
"Caberfeigh",
24 Hatchlands Road,
Redhill, Surrey.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit to you my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1972.

A minor disruption occurred in the staff with the departure of one District Inspector in September, but fortunately replacement was achieved fairly quickly by November.

In the housing field, with greater accent on improvement and modernisation than on demolition, work in the latter sphere decelerated further; eight properties were represented for action and nine were demolished. The number so demolished or closed since the post-war operations began now totalled 539 (with 503 families, comprising 1,354 persons, rehoused as a result). Dwellings improved to a modern standard rose by 107 to 1,172.

The housing survey completed during the latter half of the year, on a 10% random sample basis, was carried through smoothly and up to time schedule; preliminary assessments of results were rather startling, indicating as they did a remaining problem of around 1,200 properties requiring the provision of most of the standard amenities. Increased impetus in this work appears to be the order of the day.

The ultimate sanction of legal proceedings in the classical case of cigarette end in loaf of bread was thwarted when the firm in question had become bankrupt in the meantime. The "sell by a given date" declaration for some short-life foods was beginning to appear more at the end of the year; as a useful contribution to fresher food sales it may well produce unforeseen snags and remains therefore to be vindicated in practice.

Despite an increased throughput at the Merstham Slaughterhouse of about 25%, mainly in pigs, a total inspection of all carcasses was maintained throughout the year. The incidence of diseased conditions remained low, including tuberculosis and cysticercosis.

The Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act 1972 brought the "cyanide problem" well under control (at least by notification) early in the year, and only minor difficulties in notification and prior notice arose. There is no tip authorised for the reception of poisonous waste in the Borough at present.

Preliminary works on the M 23 and 25 Motorways on the north side of the Borough created a number of environmental pollution problems, mainly to do with noise, dust, mud, cement, traffic and, indeed, pollution by homo-sapiens at times. The proposed transfer scheduled for June of around 100,000 yards of deposited domestic refuse from a controlled tip - to facilitate a motorway cutting - was approached with some caution; fortunately the transfer distance was only about 400 yards, the weather was particularly kind and the motorway contractor most efficient; result, a smooth nuisance-free operation.

Rodent control in the sewers continued uneventfully, with "no takes" being recorded on baiting checks, as for some years now. A much more unusual situation developed in central Reigate with nuisance arising from a large and growing colony of wild cats. These were reduced to "domestic" proportions by trapping despite luxury feeding in opposition by do-gooders, one of whom presumably stole our two cat traps at one stage. Needless to say the operation was conducted throughout with the approval of the R.S.P.C.A.

The advent of a camera in the department allowed the start of a library of topical and local health subject matter in coloured slide form; particularly is this useful for permanent records of "health incidents" over a wide field, where practicable and permissible. With the slide projector acquired earlier the library has already proved most useful in health education and training sessions.

The support and ready advice of Dr. W. Moore and the unstinting cheerful help of all colleagues in the "Health Shop" is readily acknowledged once again, as is the keen interest shown by the Public Health Committee at all times.

I remain,

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At your service,

R. FRANKHAM.

Chief Public Health Inspector

16th August 1973.

Infectious Disease, Disinfection and Disinfestation

During the year 217 visits of enquiry were made on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in connection with cases of infectious disease and suspected food poisoning. Visits on the latter in connection with Sonne Dysentery accounted for many of these, as this still remained a problem during 1972.

The disinfection and disinfestation of material continued to be carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station at the Disposal Works, Redhill. This was done either in the steam disinfecting apparatus or by chemical means in the fumigation chamber. The service was also available to neighbouring authorities Caterham and Warlingham U.D.C., Dorking U.D.C., Dorking and Horley R.D.C., Epsom and Ewell Borough, Godstone R.D.C. and Leatherhead U.D.C. The old station is becoming increasingly obsolete and defective, and its replacement - as proposed for some time is now a matter of urgency.

Details are given below of the work carried out, including that at the Station and, unless otherwise indicated, relate to articles of bedding, clothing furnishings etc:-

(1)	<u>Reigate Borough</u>	
	Items	669
	Rooms	16
(2)	<u>Caterham and Warlingham U.D.C.</u>	
	Items	9
(3)	<u>Dorking and Horley R.D.C.</u>	
	Items	53
(4)	<u>Dorking U.D.C.</u>	
	Items	68
(5)	<u>Epsom and Ewell</u>	
	Items	39
(6)	<u>Godstone R.D.C.</u>	
	Items	60
(7)	<u>Leatherhead U.D.C.</u>	
	Items	8

The arrangement for the disinfection of library books by formalin vapour continued to be available.

The year produced a further decrease in cases of vermin infestation, six houses being disinfected for fleas and one for a minor bed-bug infestation.

Regular attention for cockroach disinfestation was necessary at an old people's home; insect pest control under contract arrangements was continued at a hospital and fire brigade premises; similar work was carried out at schools in the Borough, as and when necessary, on behalf of the County Education Authority. Infestations of flies, ants, etc. were dealt with at eleven dwelling houses.

One case of an elderly person living alone in insanitary conditions was dealt with by the Department during 1972. The case was referred to the Department by observant neighbours and was found to be an elderly widow without food or proper heating; prompt action resulted in removal to achieve proper care and attention. Reference to this is made in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

This subject is governed by the following legislation:-

- (a) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.
- (b) Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.
- (c) Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Sections 62 - 79 Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards.
- (d) Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
- (e) Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958.
- (f) Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 - 52.
- (g) Meat Inspection Regulations 1963.
- (h) Meat Sterilisation Regulations 1969.

Nine applications by slaughtermen for the renewal of their licences were granted at the beginning of the year. No infringements of the Act were noted during 1972.

The private slaughterhouse at Merstham provided for a "line-system" of slaughter and dressing; it continued to function satisfactorily during the period.

As before, 100% inspection of meat was achieved throughout the year; this having been the case since 1954 when the slaughterhouse was originally extended and re-opened. With the exception of calves there was an increased throughput in all classes of animals during the year, the most notable rise being in pigs. The incidence of disease rose slightly in the case of sheep and pigs as a result; bovines on the other hand showed a marked fall. The relative tables on disease incidence and specific conditions affecting the various organs are shown in the following pages, and the picture generally indicates that good quality animals continue to be presented for slaughter here.

In regard to cattle found to be affected with *cysticercus bovis*, a parasitic disease capable of development into a tapeworm in humans, cases continued to be recorded, indicating that there must be no relaxation in the standard inspection techniques used. Tuberculosis - now mainly discovered in swine only - showed an increase which may partly be attributed to increased throughput.

Arrangements for the disposal of diseased meat continued to be satisfactory. All diseased and rejected meat is now consigned to one by-products manufacturer.

In calculating the percentage of animals found on inspection to be affected by disease, other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis, figures relating to cattle and sheep affected with liver fluke and to pigs suffering from pneumonia or lung congestion are disregarded, as these are common conditions not of value for comparative statistical purposes. (See Pages 30 and 31.)

The licensed Knacker's yard at Three Arch Road, Redhill, continued operations throughout the year, being used for the cutting up of carcasses of animals which had died or had been slaughtered on the owner's premises. No horses or other animals were slaughtered here during the year. From November 1st, 1969, Regulations came into force making it compulsory for all meat from Knacker's yards to be sterilised prior to sale. New plant had been installed for this purpose during 1969 and continued in use. The proposed improvements considered last year were mostly completed during 1972.

There are no poultry processing premises in the district and poultry inspections were limited to routine ones on retail premises.

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED
WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle (excluding Bulls and Cows)	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
NUMBER KILLED	998	-	46	104	3,542	6,10
NUMBER INSPECTED	998	-	46	104	3,542	6,10
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	3	10	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	87	-	4	-	50	59
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.72% ø 6.20%	-	10.9%	2.88%	1.69% ø 0.90%	9.8% * 6.8%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	46
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	0.7
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	11	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

ø Percentage excluding Fascioliasis

* Percentage excluding Pneumonia and Congestion of Lungs.

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was just over 2½ tons.
There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the period.

DESCRIPTION	Number slaughtered	Tuberculosis Localised	Immaturity	Fever/Oedema	Emaciation	Injury	Septicaemia	Nephritis	Fascioliasis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Congestion and Pneumonia	Telengectiasis	Arthritis	Miscellaneous	TOTAL
<u>BOVINES (excluding Calves)</u>	1,044	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<u>Whole Carcasses and Offal</u>		-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Part Carcasses		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Heads and Tongues		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	32	7	12	2	-	-	66
Livers and Part Livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mesentery and Intestines, etc.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>CALVES</u>	104	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<u>Whole Carcasses and Offal</u>		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>SHEEP</u>	3,542	-	1	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	10
<u>Whole Carcasses and Offal</u>		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Part Carcasses		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
<u>PIGS</u>	6,100	-	1	7	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	20
<u>Whole Carcasses and Offal</u>		-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	102
Part Carcasses		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	50
Heads and Tongues		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	185
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	136
Livers		46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	77
Hearts		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	-	-	-	-	22
Kidneys		-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	10,790	46	3	16	-	12	11	22	52	142	57	86	197	2	76	10	732

Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sections 8 and 9
Food Unfit for Human Consumption

The inspection of foodstuffs at premises throughout the Borough continued to be made during the routine inspection of food premises and during sampling visits; also at the special request of food traders. Breakdown in refrigeration plant in retail shops selling frozen foods again accounted for much of the food surrendered.

There were forty complaints to the Department during the year of alleged unsatisfactory food or food containers, nine of which were considered unjustified or inconclusive following investigation. Of the remainder, five were on unsatisfactory food containers.

The twenty-six others may be divided into two broad categories - eighteen involving foreign material and eight food spoilage or deterioration due to bad stock rotation. As in the previous year the foreign material cases ranged over a variety of foods, viz. bread, milk, confectionery and some imported foods. Bad stock rotation and handling of food involved three of bread, three of meat foods and the remaining two of confectionery.

One case included above, involving bread containing a cigarette end, was the subject of a report to the Public Health Committee. Further action towards prosecution was deferred and eventually halted following bankruptcy of the firm in question.

A complaint of mustiness in salted peanuts thought at first to be a case of bad stock rotation turned out to be due to a certain type of nut which was found to have an inherent musty flavour; processors and importers took prompt action to investigate. Frozen cream found to be contaminated with refrigerant was the cause of some concern until resolved: investigations revealed that, due to a defect during processing, refrigerant was being drawn into the carton whilst under vacuum.

There was a further rise in the number of food complaints and, allowing for those considered to be unjustified, the increase was in "stale sales" and those due to bad stock rotation. Once again handling methods and control were at fault, mainly at retail level. At the end of the year proposals for clearer coding of perishables and a "sell by a given date" notice on packs were welcomed as further steps in the right direction by the trade.

During 1972 the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered to the Inspectors for disposal at the Council's Refuse Disposal Works:-

	Tons	cwt.	lbs.
Meat and offal	2	5	-
Meat - canned		1	54
Fish (fresh)		2	44
Sugar and Confectionery		2	28
Frozen Food	4	7	53
Tinned Fruit		8	35
Tinned Vegetables		2	29
Beverages and Bottled Juices			18
Miscellaneous Food		7	53
Ice Cream		2	22

This work involved 89 visits by the Inspectors, and the rejection of nearly eight tons of food in all.

Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sections 13 to 21 -
Hygiene in connection with the sale of food, etc. to the Public
Food and Drugs (Imported Food) Regulations 1968
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960
Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

A satisfactory standard of hygiene was being maintained in the main at retail food businesses, as revealed in routine inspections. Self-service layout continued to give an impetus to hygiene standards and cleanliness, but more cases of poor stock turnover came to light as a direct result of larger food displays and more customer participation.

Food Vehicles

Periodic checks were made continuously throughout the year on food vehicles, but as last year the number of these operating was lower. Two vehicles on "pitches" in the Borough - where problems had arisen from time to time - ceased to operate during the year.

Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Sections 89 to 99 -
Sampling and Analysis

One hundred and one samples purchased by the Sampling Officers were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, twenty being formal samples and the remainder taken informally. They covered a wide range of commodities, four of which were the subject of adverse reports by the Public Analyst. These related to the following:-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Contravention</u>	<u>Result</u>
22 & 24	Indian Tonic Water	Deficiency in quinine.	Inconclusive as to reason. Other samples satisfactory.
87 & 94	Sultanas	Labelling.	Discussions with firm on proper labelling.

Pesticide Residues

As a sequel to the initial scheme sponsored by the Local Authorities Associations in 1966 for sampling of selected foodstuffs with a view to the detection of pesticide residues, Local Authorities were requested to co-operate further in repeating the scheme of rota sampling during 1972. The Council participated in the original scheme and was again requested to obtain selected foods, i.e. lettuce; shoulder of lamb, and pears. Subsequent analytical reports from the Public Analyst showed that no significant amounts of pesticide residues were detected.

Milk and Dairies General Regulations 1959

The entries in the Registers required to be kept in accordance with the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

<u>Distributors:</u>	(a) with 2 Dairies in the Borough	2
	(b) with Dairies outside the Borough	3
	(c) with premises in the Borough	
	(bottled milk sold in general shops)	48

The two dairies in the Borough are now only used for the storage and distribution of milk. As has applied for several years now, all milk sold in the Borough must be heat treated with the exception of farm-bottled tuberculin tested milk now sold under the designation "Untreated". Frequent samples of the various grades were taken on a regular sampling basis and all successfully passed the prescribed tests. Full details of this sampling are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

REGISTER OF FOOD PREMISES AND PARTICULARS OF
WASHING FACILITIES

Type of Business	Number of Premises	Wash Hand Basins Provided
Grocers	82	82
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	35	35
Butchers	29	29
Fishmongers and Fishfriers	14	14
Bakehouses	9	9
Confectioners, Cake	13	13
Confectioners, Sweet	76	76
Food Manufactories	2	2
Catering Establishments:-		
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	60	60
Licensed Premises	62	62
School Kitchens	20	20
Clubs	12	12

Primary inspections made at food premises were as follows:-

Catering Establishments	92
Bakehouses	10
Grocers	54
Butchers	32
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	40
Fishmongers	15
Confectioners	33
Vehicles and stalls	10
Licensed Premises	25
Routine Follow-up Inspections	<u>184</u>
Visits for all purposes	<u>495</u>

Premises which are required to be registered under Section 16 are shown below in detail as being on the register at the end of 1972.

(a) Manufacture and sale of preserved foods, etc.

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Butchers, etc.	21	26
Fish fryers	8	10
Delicatessen shops	2	5
Confectioners	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>
	<u>34</u>	<u>55</u>

(b) Storage and sale of Ice-Cream

Confectioners, etc.	63	45
Grocers, etc.	35	50
Fruiterers, etc.	1	2
Newsagents, etc.	3	2
Fishmongers	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	<u>103</u>	<u>102</u>

In addition to these premises, there are 12 catering establishments where ice cream is sold for consumption off the premises, these being exempt from registration under existing law, and there are two of these premises where soft ice cream is manufactured.

The arrangement was continued with the Borough Engineer whereby plans of food premises, submitted for Bye-law approval, were examined in the Department and comments made on any aspect of environmental hygiene involved.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 - SAMPLING

(Public Analyst: J. Palgrave, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.)

	Samples Taken			Adversely Reported Upon
	Formal	Informal	Totals	
Beer	3	-	3	-
Biscuits	-	1	1	-
Cheese	-	3	3	-
Confectionery - Sweet	-	10	10	-
Confectionery - Cakes	-	1	1	-
Drugs	-	2	2	-
Essences & Flavourings	-	2	2	-
Fish and Fish Products	-	3	3	-
Fruit - Dried or Tinned	-	15	15	2
Fruit Drinks	-	7	7	-
Honey	-	1	1	-
Ice Cream	1	1	2	-
Interchicken	-	2	2	-
Jams and Marmalade	-	3	3	-
Meat and Meat Products	2	4	6	-
Milk	10	2	12	-
Nut Foods	-	3	3	-
Pickles & Sauces	-	1	1	-
Sugars	-	4	4	-
Spirits	2	-	2	-
Tonic Water	2	-	2	2
Miscellaneous	-	16	16	-
Totals	20	81	101	4

Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments

The premises used for the purpose of carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber in the Borough are subject to bye-laws made in 1954, under Section 135 of the Surrey County Council Act 1936. These bye-laws require the persons carrying on the business to maintain cleanliness of the premises and equipment. During 1972, no serious infringement of the bye-laws was noted. At the end of the year, the register of premises contained particulars of 13 men's and 25 women's establishments.

Factories Act 1961

The table on page 37 shows in detail the various trades in the Borough that come within the scope of the Act. During the year 143 inspections were made. The Register of factories has been further brought up-to-date and now contains 245 entries; in 4 cases defects relating particularly to sanitary accommodation, ventilation and general cleanliness were discovered; defects in 4 factories were remedied. Twenty six inspections were made at building sites and works of engineering construction.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951

There is only one factory which is subject to the provisions of this Act - one in which spring mattresses are manufactured. This is registered in accordance with Section 2. No samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during 1972.

Housing Acts 1957 to 1969. Rent Act 1957

Housing Subsidies Act 1956. Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act 1956

Housing (Management of Houses in Multi-Occupation) Regulations 1962

Further action was continued under the third five-years unfit houses programme and an area comprising a terrace of seven dwelling houses was represented. Nine other houses were demolished during the year as a result of previous action under the Housing Acts, and one other was the subject of a Closing Order. Altogether five families, comprising nine persons, were rehoused in 1972.

One application was received under the Rent Act 1957 for a Certificate of Disrepair. As a result the owners gave an undertaking to carry out the necessary work which was duly completed. A certificate was not issued in this case as a result.

Inspections at houses in multi-occupation revealed further cases where improvements in amenities were required, relating mainly to deficiencies in sanitary accommodation, personal washing facilities, and storage preparation and cooking of food. In conjunction with the Borough Engineer control was exercised on proposed conversions and Fire Prevention Officers of Surrey Fire Brigade gave advice where adequate means of escape in case of fire was under scrutiny.

The Housing Act of 1969 brought about several changes, the two main ones being increased maximum payments for grant assistance towards improvements, and adjustment of rents for certain dwellings in good repair. An owner wishing to take advantage of the new Act to increase the rent for his property, has to obtain a Qualification Certificate from the Local Authority to enable him to do so. To qualify for a rent increase the dwelling must be in good repair and provided with all the Standard Amenities. During the year, 32 applications for Qualification Certificates were received and, following inspections, 16 Certificates were issued and 16 were refused. Certificates of provisional approval amounted to 10, all of which were approved.

National Housing Condition Survey

Early in 1972 a request was received from the Department of the Environment seeking the co-operation of Local Authorities in undertaking a sample housing condition survey within their districts. The object of the survey - based on 10% of the housing stock - was to ascertain by the completion of a set questionnaire the condition of dwellings within the Borough relative to lack of amenities, state of repair, car parking facilities, also whether capable of improvement and approximate cost involved. It was necessary to complete the survey within a given period and this involved visiting and inspecting some 600 dwellings

Factories Act 1961 - List of Factories

on Register at end of 1971

	<u>Mechanical</u> <u>power</u>	<u>No</u> <u>Mechanical</u> <u>power</u>
Agricultural Engineers	1	-
Art Leather Works	2	-
Bakers	6	1
Basket Works	1	-
Book Binder, etc.	1	-
Boot Makers and Repairers	2	-
Brick Makers, etc.	1	-
Brush Makers	1	1
Builders and Contractors	10	5
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers	6	1
Cleaning Powder Manufacturers	1	-
Corn and Seed Merchants	2	-
Dentists	1	1
Dressmakers and Milliners	4	3
Dry Cleaners	6	1
Engineers Automobile	28	-
Engineers Electrical	1	2
Engineers Light	43	3
Essence Makers	3	1
Film Processing	1	-
Food Manufacturers	1	-
Foundries	1	-
Fullers Earth Works	1	-
Furniture Making	2	-
Gas Holder Station	1	-
Glazing and Paint Packing	2	2
Heating Engineers	3	1
Knacker's Yard	-	1
Laundries	2	-
Locomotive Repairs	1	-
Monumental Masons and Undertaker	2	-
Motor Body Repairs	11	4
Motor Cycle and Cycle Repairs	1	2
Newspaper Fudging	3	-
Photographic Works, etc.	2	-
Plastics Processors	4	1
Printers	11	-
Radio Repairs	1	2
Scale Repairers	2	-
Sewing Machine Repairs	2	-
Sheet Metal Workers	2	-
Suitcase Manufacturer	1	-
Tailors	2	1
Thermometer Manufacturer	1	-
Timber Merchants	2	1
Typewriter Repairers	1	-
Tyre Repairs	2	-
Watchmakers	1	-
Wax Refining	1	-
Building Sites and Works of Engineering Construction	24	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTALS	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>

National Housing Condition Survey (continued)

For this purpose a full-time housing enumerator was employed for the period of the survey, inspection work being generally completed by the end of November. In every case a letter was sent to the householder shortly before the visit, seeking his co-operation, and only minor difficulties arose as a result; refusals were very few in number. A preliminary assessment of the figures indicated that there appeared to be upwards of 1,200 houses remaining in need of improvement to provide the standard amenities, the item most lacking being an adequate hot water supply. In the light of this assessment it may well be necessary to increase the annual total of improvements by up to 50%, by an intensive drive in this field.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958

House Purchase and Housing Acts 1959 to 1964

The Public Health Inspectors continued to supervise work in connection with standard grants and 25 applications were dealt with, 25 being approved. Schemes were completed at 21 houses and, in consequence, the following improvements were achieved:- 5 baths in separate bathrooms, 11 wash-hand basins, 12 hot water supplies and improved water closet accommodation in 9 cases. One hundred and twelve visits of inspection were made in connection with this work generally. Only 13 applications for grants related to tenanted houses, a relatively small percentage of the total. Up to the end of the year around 493 applications for standard grants had been received since the inception of the scheme, and 410 of these had been approved.

Liaison continued to be exercised with the Borough Engineer in proposals dealing with discretionary grant applications, and 90 such cases were referred to this Department for observations during the year. Consequent on this grant assistance generally, 107 housing units were brought up to a reasonable standard of both repair and amenity in 1972.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Inspections under the Act were maintained during the year and all new registered premises were visited. One hundred and fifty nine inspections were made, 372 visits were paid and contraventions were noted at seventeen premises. At the end of the period all but a few minor deficiencies had been remedied. In no case was it necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

The (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations 1968 came into force in 1969, their purpose being to impose requirements as to the construction, maintenance and examination of certain lifts in offices, shops and railways premises. On regular inspection only one case arose where a lift was found to require attention.

There was an increase in the number of accidents reported, from 11 to 20, all of which were investigated. Informal advice was required in 1 case and action was not necessary in the remaining 19 cases. Accidents involving falls and handling goods were the cause of the majority of accidents, which follows generally the pattern of previous years. Injuries were comparatively minor in character and were as follows in descending order of frequency:- hands and arms (8), feet and legs (6), body (4), head (2).

There was a further increase in the premises on the register at the end of the year from 656 to 660. The number of premises and persons employed in the various categories were as follows:- 220 Offices (3,352 persons), 371 Retail Shops (2,014 persons), 19 Wholesale Premises (249 persons), 49 Catering Establishments (378 persons), 1 Fuel Storage Depot (27 persons).

A tabular statement of the various contraventions remedied in offices and shops is included on page 41.

Disease of Animals (Waste Food) Order 1957

This Order deals with the inspection and licensing of boiling-plants used by collectors of waste food for animal feeding. Such waste food may spread foot-and-mouth and other animal disease if not properly boiled for at least one hour. There is only one such food plant licensed in the Borough at present, and inspections indicated that the requirements of the Order were being observed.

A heavy accent was placed on this aspect of animal husbandry by the rumblings of an epidemic of swine vesicular disease which arose at the end of December. Later the spread of this disease came to be strongly associated with infection from waste food sources.

Fairground Sanitation

Two fairs were staged for short periods in the Borough during the year, and these were visited and inspected for general sanitary arrangements. Temporary sanitary accommodation and an emptying and cleansing service continued to be provided by the Council at appropriate charges.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act 1952 and Regulations 1953 Oil Heater Regulations 1962 and 1966

The Heating Appliances Regulations deal with safety standards in the construction of electric, gas and oil space heaters, and for the fixing of satisfactory fire guards. The standards now adopted by manufacturers to conform with the appropriate British Standard Specification ensure compliance with the requirements. Contraventions on retail sale are now most rare and none arose during the year.

Noise Abatement Act 1960

Nuisances arising from noise and vibration are dealt with by this Act, which does not lay down rigid standards on permissible noise levels; indeed it would appear most difficult to do so, variable as the problem will be in each case on location and distance, intensity and duration, and the time of day or night involved.

Nine complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year and in 8 cases subsequent investigations revealed that there was justification for complaint. These cases were as follows:-

<u>Problem</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
Factory "Wind in Duct" Noises - Cooling extract and ventilation fans generally.	- 5 cases	Remedial measures taken informally - satisfactory in four cases, proceeding in one.
Oil Fired Boilers and Forced Draught Fans in Flues.	- 1 case	Protracted observations and noise readings, discussions with Company. Partly resolved.
Road Drills	- 2 cases	Contractors fitted mufflers following representation.

On the control of noise from road breaking tools and building site operations generally a clause on this is now entered in all relevant Council contracts dealt with by the Borough Engineer. Co-operation from contractors has improved as a result.

Complaints

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of premises	...	...	...	...	...	69
House Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	94
Cesspools overflowing	...	...	...	...	...	2
Non-removal of house refuse	...	...	...	...	...	31
Rats or Mice	...	...	...	...	...	682
Other Vermin (Foxes, Badgers, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	58
Other insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	76
Wasps nests	...	...	...	...	...	138
Unsound food (sold)	...	...	...	...	...	40
Keeping of Animals, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	13
Smoke Nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	39
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	111

Notices Issued and Action Taken

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year

Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January 1972	...	...	...	...	...	64
Issued during year	...	...	...	...	...	90
Complied with during year	...	...	...	...	...	94
Statutory action necessary	...	...	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December 1972	...	...	...	...	...	59

Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January 1972	...	...	...	...	...	-
Issued during year	...	...	...	...	...	1
Complied with during year	...	...	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December 1972	...	...	...	...	...	1

Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, both voluntarily and in consequence of notices in respect of dwelling-houses, food premises, factories, and other business premises.

Dwelling-houses

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Eaves-gutters and stack-pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Horizontal damp proof course inserted	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork (houses)	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other causes of dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	14
Drains examined or tested (primary inspections only)	...	...	...	...	...	81
Drainage systems repaired, extended or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	43
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	49
New W.C.'s installed	...	...	...	...	...	13
W.C. apparatus renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sewage treatment plants repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	32
Floors, windows and doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	79
Sinks installed or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wash-hand basins renewed or installed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Baths installed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hot water supply installed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Yard Paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
External decoration	...	...	...	...	...	24
Fencing repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	6

Food Premises

Food storage and display improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rooms cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Preparation tables repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wash-hand basins installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hot water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
First Aid equipment provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks renewed or installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dustbins renewed/bin area improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Factories

Sanitary accommodation provided and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Standard of cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Other Business Premises -- Offices, Shops, etc.

Rooms cleaned and redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Heating improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors, passages and stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Thermometers, abstracts, etc. provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
First Aid box provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hoists and lifts repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 - Rodent Control

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the tabulated statement given below, the table having been modified to conform with the simplified return now made annually to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	NON-AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1. Number of properties in district	23,346	60
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	670	12
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	373	12
(ii) Mice	186	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reason other than notification	69	32
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	39	13
(ii) Mice	15	2

This work carried out by the District Pests Officers involved the following visits of inspection:-

Local Authority Premises	1,305
Dwelling Houses	5,654
Business Premises	762
Agricultural Premises	548
	<hr/>
	8,269
Visits in relation to other pests	1,869
	<hr/>
	10,138
	<hr/>

There was a small decrease in the number of complaints of rat infestation during the year, and this was reflected in the smaller number of infestations found and treated. Complaints of mice infestation were also reduced in number, as were the infestations dealt with. Control of mice continued to require the use of more sophisticated poisons to clear the more persistent infestations, and such cases became both costly and time consuming. In the case of agricultural premises there was no noticeable change during 1972. All infestations of both rats and mice were dealt with by Pests Officers of the Department.

Inspection and control work on agricultural land was continued throughout the year; also period arrangements on a quarterly charge basis for regular disinfection by the Pests Officers were continued with satisfactory results. There were eight of these at the end of the period.

Control was also exercised on two refuse tips where tipping is carried out intermittently by the Council. One of these, located just outside the Borough, is kept under surveillance following an arrangement with Godstone R.D.C. No infestations of note have been recorded. Charges at business premises continued unaltered, the occupier being required to meet the cost of the treatment on a basis of 0.50p an hour, with a minimum charge of 0.75p.

It has been normal practice in the past for the staff to conduct twice yearly systematic inspection and treatment as necessary of the Borough sewerage system; it is pleasing to report that no infestations were found in the 1972 testing of the sewers.

The control work already detailed was exclusive of that carried out under contract arrangements with:-

- (a) the Surrey County Council at St. Anne's, Redhill, and its ancillary homes, day nursery, clinics, fire brigade premises, etc.
- (b) the Group Hospital Management Committee at the Redhill General Hospital.

Apart from this rodent control work the officers were engaged from time to time at Corporation property in dealing with other pests, such as rabbits, foxes, badgers and moles. In addition, 138 wasps' nests were destroyed during the summer period.

Cat Destruction

During the year complaints were received at the department regarding colonies of wild cats living on derelict land in the centre of Reigate. In cooperation with the R.S.P.C.A. measures were taken to trap as many as possible in view of the nuisance arising from smell and fouling, which was causing concern at adjacent properties. Over a period of several months trapping continued and some 34 cats were caught and dealt with. Operations of feeding and trapping difficult enough in any case - were made much more so by interference from certain members of the public, and at one time both of the Department's cat traps were stolen.

Education and Instruction

As in the past, educational visits were arranged to the Refuse Disposal Works, Sewage Works, Disinfecting Station and caravan sites. In the main these visits were for organised parties of Student Nurses, Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors in training.

